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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/807,487	03/23/2004	Deborah D.L. Chung	19226/2331 (R-5839)	3059

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EXAMINER

LAM, CATHY FONG FONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1775

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/807,487

Applicant(s)

CHUNG, DEBORAH D.L.

Examiner

Cathy Lam

Art Unit

1775

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-110 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-21 and 25-110 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date Aug. 02, 2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-21, drawn to a thermally conductive paste, classified in class 252, subclass 502.
 - II. Claims 22-24, drawn to a thermal conductive interface, classified in class 257, subclass 720.
 - III. Claims 25-45 & 90-110, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 425, subclass varies.
 - IV. Claims 46-89, drawn to a method of removing heat from a heat source, classified in class 438, subclass 584.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions II and I are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the thermally conductive paste can be a different material (or ingredients). The subcombination has separate utility such as a conductive paste for making circuitry.
3. Inventions IV and III are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP §

806.05(e)). In this case the process as claimed can be used for bonding two different or same thermal expansion coefficient materials together by using a thermally conductive material, an inorganic material or a glass ceramic material. The apparatus can be made by an adhesive bonding method.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. During a telephone conversation with Atty: Tate Tischner on March 31, 2005 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of group II, claims 22-24. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 1-21 & 25-110 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iruvanti et al (US 5098609).

Iruvanti discloses a thermally conductive paste that is used in a gap between an active component and a heat sink.

The paste is comprised of a solid filler and a non-aqueous electrically resistive liquid carrier (col 1 L 61-63). The solid filler can be diamond (col 2 L 44). The liquid carrier can be mineral oils or silicone oils, etc. paste forming material (col 2 L 62-66).

Iruvanti is silent about that the paste is a porous agglomerates, however in view of the prior art teaching, it would have been obvious that the paste is porous because those conventional heat conductive paste has minute pores that allows air to pass through for heat dissipation (col 1 L 19-23).

8. Claims 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iruvanti et al (US 5098609) in view of Bollinger, Jr. et al (US 5545679).

Iruvanti discloses a thermally conductive paste formed between an active component and a heat sink. The thermally conductive paste is comprised of diamond and a liquid carrier.

Bollinger teaches a positive temperature coefficient conductive polymer that is used in circuit devices.

The PTC conductive polymer is comprised of graphite and/or carbon black and a thermosetting polyester resin (col 1 L 57-60). The thermosetting polyester can be polyethylene glycol fumerate (col 2 L 9).

The prior art is silent about having an ethyl-cellulose as a solute. In view of the prior art teachings, one skill in the art would choose the most suitable ingredients and amount of each component because it is a matter of design scheme.

Art Unit: 1775

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cathy Lam whose telephone number is (571) 272-1538. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Jones can be reached on (571) 272-1535. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cathy Lam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1775

cfl
April 05, 2005